

# The Washington Times

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## The Short Session.

If the promises of its first year are borne out in the record of its second, the Fifty-seventh Congress will take rank in history as one of exceptional industry and exceptional achievement. Few of its predecessors accomplished at a first session labors of equal importance or magnitude.

On July 1, at the end of the long session, the present Congress could put to its credit a list of completed measures of unusual interest and consequence. The passage of an isthmian canal bill solved a problem with which the two houses had vainly wrestled for twenty years. The Philippine tariff and civil government acts established peace, order, and a generous measure of political autonomy in the trans-Pacific dependencies falling to our lot as an unlooked-for legacy from the war with Spain. The irrigation law act—a first step toward the reclamation of the arid West—committed the Federal Government to a project whose beneficial possibilities can fitly be compared with those which flowed from the inception and execution of the homestead law.

One signal opportunity of the first session the Fifty-seventh Congress let slip. One vital national obligation it left unfulfilled. The unwillingness of the two houses to extend a helping hand to Cuba—to insure the new-born republic through reciprocal tariff concessions, a fair start in its industrial and commercial life, has unhappily clouded those mutual relations of concord and amity which it should have been our first concern to emphasize and promote. To give quickly is to give twice, and Congress committed an error both of the head and of the heart, when it neglected to offer Cuba that measure of industrial relief which we could so easily have afforded, and of which the insular government stood in such urgent need.

This blunder can be—and should be—repaired, if the Fifty-seventh Congress is to leave behind it an unmarred record for efficiency and for wisdom. Whether by treaty or by reciprocity legislation following the lines of the Administration's recommendations of last winter, our commercial relations with Cuba should be promptly defined—and defined in a spirit both of liberality and of intelligence.

Other tasks, too, of genuine importance remain to be accomplished at the session just begun. Congress will be asked to enlarge and strengthen the prohibitions now aimed by law at combinations operated in restraint of interstate trade and commerce. Some way can, perhaps, be found, even in the rush and hurry of the next three months, to widen the scope and re-enforce the restrictions of the anti-trust law of 1890—the so-called Sherman act.

Oklahoma, Arizona, and New Mexico continue to knock eagerly at the Union's door, and the Senate must say whether or not they shall be admitted—one or all—to Statehood. Other uncompleted measures—the subsidy bill, the bill for the protection of the President, and the bill creating a Department of Commerce—will come up for final action; and new legislation will also be asked to establish gold as the standard of value for the Philippines.

Political and partisan maneuvering will be reduced to a minimum at the session which has just opened. The results of the November election will discourage the useless and irrelevant agitation which so retarded business last winter and last spring. Little time will happily be available for the stormy by-play of politics; and there may be even less disposition to indulge in dilatory pyrotechnics. Altogether a busy and tranquil session may be looked for—one eminently business-like in purpose and fruitful in legislation of the practical sort.

## Another Veteran Gone.

The news from Connecticut that Senator Joseph R. Hawley will be unable to occupy his seat this winter in the deliberative branch of Congress offers a melancholy confirmation of earlier reports of this veteran statesman's broken and declining health. As a soldier who won distinction in the war of the rebellion, as governor of Connecticut, as Representative and Senator in Congress for a consecutive service covering thirty years, General Hawley has been a notable and virile figure in the last half century of American public life.

A career full of achievements and of honors seems now to be drawing to a close. Though the political activities of the junior Senator from Connecticut have reached their natural term, it is to be hoped that other years of life remain to him. His withdrawal from active service will break an additional and an important link in the chain—already so greatly weakened—which binds the politics of our day with the politics of that more heroic and turbulent era, to which the suppression of a great rebellion and the reconstruction of the States which left the Union furnished political motives of an exceptional and extraordinary power.

Our attitude toward the German-Venezuelan controversy wisely seems to be that the Monroe Doctrine shall not be used as an instrument under shelter of which the South American republics may dodge a payment of their just debts.

## A Marriage Merger.

Trusts have become a national issue of late, and a more than vexatious question, politically, to handle. They seem, however, to be on the increase, and the storm center of the last, and of its kind, the largest on record, is now located at Plymouth, Pa. It is, according to the plans of James Evans, who seems to have cornered the market, a proposed "merger" between 600 young men of good appearance, and a corresponding number of young maids, to be recruited in Wilkesbarre.

This, it strikes us, is the largest single order placed on the matrimonial market, since the initial shipments to Jamestown and New Orleans, in the early colonial days. Moreover, as Mr. Evans has agreed to receipt for and to pay freight charges on one individual consignment, for his own use, it looks as if the deal will go through.

It appears that Mr. Evans was a former resident of Plymouth, but that he followed the traditional course of empire until the Pacific Ocean put a stop to his further progress, and brought him to a standstill in the State of Washington. There he evidently discovered that it was not good for man to live alone, and, finding from practical experience that the standard of the plea made by John Chinaman was not up to that of those that mother used to bake, determined to take an Eastern wife unto himself.

Doubtless imagining that there might be others whose taste and inclinations trended toward home cooking and the unseasoned presence of a woman in the house, he made a personal and exhaustive canvass of Pierce and King counties. The result was, that he succeeded in finding 499 young men of "good habits and steady workers," who longed for wives and with whom he entered into a "combine."

He then wrote to his friend, E. A.

Williams, the postmaster of his native town, and requested him to ship the goods, as soon as they could be collected, without reference to nationality. He did, however, express a preference for Welsh, English, or German extraction, if the market should prove short on the native product. To each applicant he guaranteed "a good home in the finest State in the Union, and an immediate marriage with a man of merit."

How the distribution is to be made does not appear. But the whole arrangement seems based on the French system of a marriage "de convenance," which reminds one somewhat of his earlier days and the youthful transference of the Jackknife "night unseen."

Thus the maid whose soul longs for a dark, smart, slender spouse, may win the fairest of herculean blondes; while the man whose preconceived ideas of female loveliness are Rubensque, might draw an understudy of the attenuated straight-front poster girl. One bridegroom-to-be, who hopes to cage a gentle dove, may have to tame a hawk, while another seeking in vain for even the excitement of the retort courteous, will find his domestic spirits watered by the tyranny of tears.

Marriages, they say, are lotteries, with drawings made in heaven. If this be true, they seem to have improved on the celestial article in Pennsylvania, and brought it up to date. For the proof of the pudding lies in the eating, and Postmaster Williams reports that these Seattle and Tacoma offers are going like the proverbial hot cakes. As, however, he refuses to divulge the names of these parties of the second part, we can only wish them collectively a happy and successful career. To this we add a sincere hope that the good fortune that custom seems to have allotted to the heroines of fairy tales may be theirs, and that they and their families may live long and prosper.

# COMMERCIAL CONDITIONS IN CUBA

By WILLIAM F. JUDSON, President of the Cuban Supply Company.

THE recent riot in Havana were not race riots or the work of revolutionists; they were merely strike riots, such as we had in Brooklyn and Buffalo a few years ago. Some of the newspaper dispatches have made it appear that hatred of Americans had much to do with the disturbances, but such is not the fact.

When I was in Cuba, a little over two weeks ago, the employees in one of the Havana Commercial Company's factories went on strike to obtain higher wages. Subsequently the men in other shops followed their example, and, as is usually the case in large cities when a lot of excitable men are idle, disturbances have ensued.

Up to a year ago there was throughout the Island of Cuba a strong feeling against the Americans, due, I presume, to their work during the Spanish-American war. But when our troops were withdrawn and the people returned to their old ways of living the importance of the service rendered Cuba by the Americans dawned upon their minds and a feeling of respect and admiration was begotten. The old bitterness is gone, and Spaniards and Cubans alike regard the Americans as important factors in the development of the island.

I have strong hopes for the future of Cuba, as it is a country of great possibilities. There is a general impression in the republic that annexation is bound to come, some say within six years, others within ten years. This impression is not confined to any one nationality, but is shared by Cubans, Spaniards, and Americans alike. The present government is stable and has the confidence of the people. It is carrying on improvements in the city and paying for them

as the work progresses. There is no indication that the days of revolution will ever return.

Cuba, therefore, is now in a position to go forward in the development of her varied resources, and it is gratifying to note that Americans are in a position to take an important part in its development. Already they have invested millions of dollars in her commercial, agricultural, and industrial enterprises. The American firms are today the strongest in Havana, and it would not surprise me to find them controlling the business of the city and the island in the near future. Business the past summer was wretchedly bad, and some of the weaker concerns were driven to the wall, but those that survived are all the better for the struggle they have been through.

American enterprise is already accomplishing great results in the island republic. It has established many new lines of business, it has opened up new territory and has introduced modern machinery and modern methods in various manufacturing industries. Samuel P. McGivney, a Jersey City contractor, has secured an \$11,000,000 contract for sewerage of the city. An up-to-date American brickyard has been established in the outskirts of Havana. Stone quarries have been developed by American capital that promise to pay large returns to the investors.

An encouraging phase of the industrial situation in Cuba is the reliable character of the workmen. Much to my surprise, I have found the Spaniards the most trustworthy and faithful of employees. They are much better than the native Cubans, who work only when they want money for present needs. They cannot do as much work in a day as our laborers here in New York. The climate, of course, is responsible for this difference.

## IN THE PUBLIC EYE.

The Awdiffred prize of \$30,000 has been awarded to Mme. Meyrier, wife of the French consul at Diarbekir, Turkey, for her heroism during the Armenian massacres in 1895. In the consulate building more than 700 Armenian refugees were fed and sheltered by Mme. Meyrier, and M. Meyrier and his staff again and again repulsed the Turkish assailants.

Lady Curzon seems to be ambitious to excel Englishwomen on their own ground. She recently went hunting with her husband, and shot a tiger.

Founder Bradley has offered to sell the famous Asbury Park boardwalk and beach to the city for \$150,000.

Russell Harrison contemplates securing legislation establishing a naval brigade in Indiana.

This is said to be the last visit which the Russian painter Vereshchagin will make to the United States.

The death of George Harding, one of the leading patent lawyers of the country, recalls a story in connection with the building of a hotel in the Catskills which he owned. Many years ago the mountain hotel was more autocratic with its guests than it is now, and, instead of keeping its kitchen and grill room open till a late hour of the night, it required the presence at regular meal-times of all who desired to eat. Late comers had to go without. Mr. Harding

was staying at a large hotel in the Rip Van Winkle region, when one of his children became ill, and he asked that broiled chicken be sent to his rooms. The hotel people said there was no chicken on the bill of fare that day.

"Can't you send out and kill one?" asked Mr. Harding.

The hotel people did not see how they could.

"All right," said the lawyer, "there is going to be a hotel in these mountains where I can eat chicken when I want it."

He proceeded to buy a mountain and build a hotel on the top of it, which he personally superintended for some years after retiring from business. It was conducted on more liberal lines than most of the hostleries in that region, and it was always possible for the guests to get broiled chicken at any reasonable hour.

## AT NIGHT.

It is not hard to put thee off  
Steadfastly all day long;  
For work upon the beaten way  
My hand and soul are strong.

But when, all weary, I lie down  
And ask for rest and sleep,  
Thy dear face slowly grows and grows  
Out of the night's vast deep.

It teases me, it holds me fast,  
In vain I try to pray,  
And the old spot on my bosom burns  
Where once thy letter lay.

—M. L. A., in the Era.

## "UNCONSIDERED TRIFLES."

### An Overworked Deity.

"They say that the American worships the god of luck."

"Don't you believe it. If there was any such person here he'd have died long ago of nervous prostration."

### The Complexion of the Soul.

"I am striving," said the new convert, solemnly, "for complete sanctification, and I shall never rest till I have attained."

"Look here, sister," commented a grizzled old deacon, "we sing the hymn about being white as snow, and that's one of the best in the hymnbook, but you'll find that piety that is out in active life at all is likely to get some freckles on it."

### Defined.

The Czar Proposition—That with which the Czar of Russia is confronted.

### The Difficulty in the Way.

"Your mother and I," said the old man, severely, "began in a small way." We had to live on \$10 a week, and we lived in two rooms."

"That's all right, daddy," cooed the girl, persuasively, "but if Jim and I lived that way that diamond star and those lovely gold-lined silver things you and mamma are going to give us would all get stolen the first week. Besides, how would they look alongside of corned beef and cabbage and me washing the dishes?"

# NOTES OF THE PASSING THROUG.

## A Business Transaction.

SOMETIMES the very frankness with which a wrongful deed is done seems to transform criticism or censure into amusement at the moral condition thus revealed. This is evidently true in the case of that Seneca Falls correspondent of Jacob T. Clark, of Geneva, N. Y., who asked Mr. Glick to find a man willing to murder one F. G. Miller for the sake of \$1,000, the proposition being accompanied by a \$10 bill "for expenses." It is plain that the writer of such a letter sees nothing sinful in murder. He would order the slitting of a throat with the same easy conscience that would mark his request for the cutting of a yard of calico from his parent bolt.

## The Duty of a Shepherd.

PASTOR LEUPPKE, of the Methodist Church at Fairhaven, N. J., has the right conception of his duty as the shepherd of a flock when he took charge of the coal situation in his village "for the good of his people." He saw that great suffering was in store for many if an adequate supply of coal were not soon on hand, so he himself ordered several carloads direct from the mines. When the coal arrived he sold it out to his parishioners in lots of a ton each, at almost cost price, the slight profit going to benefit the church. Wherefore, the folk of Fairhaven are now safe against winter's rigors, and Pastor Leuppke has done as good a piece of pastoral work as even his devoted soul could well desire.

## The Power of Sentiment.

SENTIMENT rules the world, and the evil as well as the good souls are apparently subject to its sway. The other day, in Chicago, a thief "relieved" a gentleman of his watch. Upon examining it later, however, he found in its case the portraits of a mother and child, and his heart was profoundly touched. "I have a wife and child

# "Of Making Many Books There Is No End."

## True Self-Possession.

It was said of Richard Cobden that his powers of concentration were somewhat remarkable. One morning, while he was deeply engrossed in his work, his little daughter came running in with her pinafore full of young rabbits, which she deposited on his writing table. He gently removed them and went on writing quite undisturbed.

## Travel in Patagonia.

"Through the Heart of Patagonia," by Hesketh Pritchard, will soon appear. It is illustrated in color from twenty drawings by J. G. Millais.

## The Work of Lionel Johnson.

The poems and prose essays of the late Lionel Johnson are to be collected and published in two volumes. The poems will have an introduction by Katherine Tynan.

## An Offer for Abbotsford.

Alexander MacDonald, a director of the Standard Oil Company, wishes to buy the historic house and grounds of Abbotsford, but it is doubtful whether he will succeed. Mrs. Maxwell Scott, the present owner, is unwilling to part with the property. It is refreshing, however, to note that Mr. MacDonald intends to present the estate to the

Scotch people and not to live on it himself, therein differing from the millionaire purchasers of much of the historic property of the British Isles. As his name indicates, he is descended from one of the old Highland clans, and evidently has some of the patriotic loyalty to the soil which is apt to be part of that inheritance.

## A Novel Occupation.

A London girl makes her living by selling plots and titles to unimaginative authors and playwrights. She is coming to New York to establish a branch of her business, and says that she has always been full of ideas for stories, but owing to lack of raining, could not write them as they should be written. She, therefore, hit upon the plan of sharing them with some writer who was properly trained, and thus far she has met with success.

## A Tapley Club.

Reginald Birch, the artist, had a quaint experience once in Munich. He was one of several art students, who, in order to keep up their spirits during the traditional period of impecuniosity common to all Bohemians, organized what they called a Mark Tapley Club. It was arranged that they should dine each year

at a certain restaurant, and that if any member were absent his plate should be laid, his beer poured, and his health drunk exactly as if he were present. As time went on there came a year when nobody but Mr. Birch was in Munich at the time of the dinner. He, true to his vows, dined alone at a table laid for eight, drank eight mugs of beer to the health of the club, and created a very natural sensation among the other diners, who decided that he was certainly mad.

## The Methods of Mr. Henry.

The late George A. Henry gave to an interviewer, not long before his death, some information on his methods of work. He said that his object was to teach history and encourage nearly living among boys. All of his books were dictated, as by that method, he said, he could obtain "larger, finer sentences." When he had settled upon a period in history as the time for his forthcoming book he was wont to send to the library for ten books dealing with that period, glance through them to see what was best suited to his purpose, and then begin his writing without any definite plan about the story. He found that it gradually built itself up from the suggestions afforded by the life of the period.

# Chips From the Political Workshop.

## A Stalking Horse.

The maneuvers of the Republican leaders upon the reassembling of Congress seem plainly to verify the prediction of The Times, frequently made during the past month, that the trust subject is to monopolize attention through the session as a means of avoiding all discussion of the tariff revision subject. There is a quiet but desperate contest in progress between a half dozen men in the House and Senate to take the lead in anti-trust legislation. In the Senate Mr. Cullom, Mr. Lodge, and Mr. Allison each appears anxious to obtain recognition as the leader in this movement, while in the House Mr. Littlefield of Maine and Mr. Jenkins of Wisconsin appear determined to play the principal roles as "trust-busters." That the Administration will prepare a bill embodying the well-known contentions of the President there seems to be no doubt, though as yet it is the merest guesswork as to who will be chosen to present this measure.

Undoubtedly Senator Lodge would accept the honor with great pleasure and gratitude, as would also Senator Beveridge, and mayhap neither Senator Cullom nor Senator Allison would be averse to performing the service if the President should call on him to do so. But there is no evidence that Mr. Roosevelt has requested anybody to father his proposition. As to the probabilities of definite anti-trust legislation at this session the consensus of opinion is strongly in the negative. It is expected that nearly every statesman who gets the chance will submit a few remarks, and, having thus squared his record, will be content to have the friends of the trusts achieve a temporary triumph by postponing action, just as was done at the last session in the case of Cuban reciprocity.

## The Statehood Bill.

Under the agreement forced by Senator Quay near the close of the last session, the Committee on Territories, of which Senator Beveridge is chairman, is pledged to make a report on the omnibus Statehood bill Wednesday of this week. It is believed, however, that Senator Beveridge will ask the Senate tomorrow for further time, basing his request upon the plea that the subcommittee which recently returned from a tour of the three Territories seeking Statehood, cannot formulate its opinion for the guidance of the full committee at so short notice.

A further part of the agreement forced by Senator Quay calls for the taking up of the bill for final consideration on December 10, or a week from Wednesday. But if the Senate grants Senator Beveridge's request for further time it will probably follow that the date for final consideration of the bill also will be changed. Thus the prospects are that the measure will not be disposed of until after the holidays, in which event it is probable that the bill either will be defeated outright or that Arizona and New Mexico will be left out and only Oklahoma will be admitted to Statehood.

## Rodey Is Rampant.

But the Hon. B. S. Rodey, the wildly enthusiastic Delegate from New Mexico, refuses to listen with patience to any suggestion that there is a strong likelihood of his Territory being left out in the cold any longer. He came back to Washington Saturday more convinced than ever that he has won his fight for Statehood. Mr. Rodey says that the Senatorial investigators made it a point while in New Mexico to see only the worst features of life and citizenship in that Territory, but that in spite of themselves the evidences of the eminent qualifications of his constituents for full and free participation in national affairs were so glaring and plentiful that the visiting Senators could not help but recognize them.

There is no telling how Mr. Rodey would feel or what he would do if Statehood should be denied to New Mexico at this session. He refuses to talk of anything else, and the man who dares intimate to him a belief that he will not realize his hopes will get a rebuke from Mr. Rodey that can neither be escaped nor forgotten. Mr. Rodey was born in County Mayo, Ireland nearly half a century ago, and, despite England as he does, it is believed that if he loses out in his Statehood fight this time he will rue the day when he renounced his British citizenship for this land of the free and home of the brave.

## HE PAID FOR HIS FUN.

When an overmastering desire to manifest one's independence animates the bosom, the fact that the demonstration may prove costly does not seem to cut any figure. This was the case with a stranger of whom the "New York World" tells, who seemed determined to enjoy a certain forbidden pleasure of a rather curious flavor. The story is as follows:

A stranger wearing a silk hat and smoking a long, black cigar entered Part VI of the supper room yesterday morning. He took a front seat and calmly blew big circles of smoke about his head. "Take off that hat!" cried two court officers. "Stop that cigar!" cried two more. The dignified stranger looked amused, then got up and strode with dignity to the door. There he stopped and, throwing back his head, sent half a dozen contemptuous whiffs in the direction of the bench.

"Bring that man back here!" sternly ordered Justice O'Gorman. Court Officers Watson and Ledwith got him—cigar, silk hat, and all. "Ten dollars fine," said Justice O'Gorman.

The stranger peeled a bill off a wise roll and went smiling out into the street. No one could discover his identity.

When Court Officer Watson took the \$10 over to the city chamberlain to be deposited for John Doe it was refused. Now there is no one to claim it.

## RESULT OF BEING JILTED.

The curious ways by which men and women seek to get even with fate are beyond explaining. In a recent issue the "Philadelphia Record" has the following recital of the peculiar resolution to which disappointment in love brought an Indiana man:

John Burger, of Petersburg, for forty years before his death never spoke to a human being. Years ago he met a young woman of Petersburg and fell in love with her. She married another man and Burger resolved never to speak again, and kept his vow. He would pass his friends on the street without even a smile. He never will have a lawsuit over the division of his estate.

## And Now It's Mr. Fortune.

The Hon. Thomas T. Fortune, who until the Hon. Becker T. Washington eclipsed him was the most conspicuous colored statesman and publicist in the country, has become a disturbing issue in the colored politics of New Jersey by reason of the fact that the President has designated him as a citizen of that State for important duties in the Philippines. Colonel Fortune, so it is complained by the men of his race in New Jersey who take an interest in politics, has obtained only a nominal residence in that State, and, moreover, they intimate that he moved "into their midst" solely for the purpose of getting the appointment which has been bestowed upon him. They do not deny the colonel's eminent fitness to perform for the nation the service assigned him by the President, nor do they object to the President rewarding him on the grounds of personal friendship. But they do not want him to be credited to New Jersey, because that might cut some bona fide colored citizen of that State out of the recognition which he may consider his due. If the President will credit Colonel Fortune to New York, where it is contended he properly belongs, every colored statesman in New Jersey will rejoice at the selection. But if his appointment is sent to the Senate in its present form Senators Kean and Dryden may be induced to fight its confirmation.

## Hanna at a Hotel.

There will be no more corned beef hash breakfasts with the Hon. Mark A. Hanna as genial host and the President of the United States as the guest of honor in the famous old Don Cameron mansion on Lafayette Square this winter. The reason is that Senator Hanna has given up this house and will live at a hotel during the short session of Congress. This does not necessarily mean, of course, that the distinguished Ohioan will not entertain the President at breakfast as of old. But it cannot be possible that the piece de resistance, or the chef d'oeuvre, or by whatever other French name your Uncle Mark calls his corned beef hash, will be the same, since Mr. Hanna's chef is the only one in the whole world who knows how to prepare this dish. The chef has been left behind with the family at Cleveland, and the landlord of the hotel which the Ohioan is to honor with his presence this winter has tried in vain to induce the Hanna cook either to join the hostelry's force or sell the recipe for the hash. At the same time it is not believed that the President would decline an invitation to breakfast with Mr. Hanna on this account. While the Chief Magistrate is very fond of Mr. Hanna's hash, he is also fond of slipping away from the White House every once in a while and joining his friends and political supporters in quiet little breakfast parties.

## Craige Is Looking Up.

Late reports from North Carolina indicate that the Senatorial situation in that State is not entirely hopeless for the Hon. Locke Craige. Indeed, the far-famed Buncombe county statesman seems at this juncture to have a better chance than ever. The rapid multiplication of candidates is in his favor. Those who are thus far announced as his opponents are the Hon. Cyrus Watson of Forsyth county, the Hon. Lee Overman of Rowan, the Hon. W. A. Hoke of Lincoln, and the Hon. Julian S. Carr of Durham. Mr. Craige also has another advantage in that he is the candidate of the machine, that is controlled by Senator Simmons, than whom there is no shrewder political manipulator in the country.

Still another factor to his advantage is that he lives in the extreme western part of the State, which, under the rule that obtains in North Carolina, entitles his claims to special consideration, since Senator Simmons comes from the other side of the State. If the Legislature gets deadlocked at Raleigh this winter there is some prospect of the Senatorship being won by either Gov. Charles B. Aycock or Judge Walter B. Clark, who was a mighty Bryan man in his day, and was elected chief justice of the supreme court at the recent election. It is said, however, that in the end the rejuvenated Cleveland element in the State may control the Senatorship, in which event it is probable that either General Carr, the tobacco trust magnate, or Mr. Overman will wear the mantle which now envelops the Hon. Jeter Connally Pritchard.

## THE PAIN OF SUICIDE.

In making up one's mind to commit suicide, it is always well to remember that there must necessarily be some unpleasant features connected with the performance. The foolish boy of whom the "Philadelphia Press" tells in the following news item from Vineland, N. J., now doubts he realizes this truth:

Five boys who were recently held for court on the charge of forging checks stolen from the Landville postoffice were taken to the county jail at Bridgeton today, but before starting they told Warden Spencer of an exciting time they had in jail last night, when one of their number nearly succeeded in committing suicide.

Determined to end all by hanging, P. Formator procured a stout cord, and, fastening one end to the iron grating above his head, put the noose around his neck. Miscalculating the distance, Formator, in order to make his improvised gallows effective, had to draw up his feet from the floor.

When he did this the string hurt his neck so that he winced and the movement of his body against the iron grating awakened his companions, who put an end to his suicidal attempt.

## A BANQUET FOR CATS AND DOGS.

People with more money than they know what to do with are apt to be foolish in its disbursement, but it may not be said that the Chicago woman in the following story from the "New York World" made an unwise use of a small portion of her wealth, since it brought comfort to several hundred dumb animals:

Mrs. Charles Whitehead, of the Home for Friendless Cats and Dogs, decided to give her pets the best there was in the market today. Assisted by Miss Clara McDonald, she fed the outcast animals oysters and turkey and macaroni home.

"Just see the intelligence of that dog," said Mrs. White. "Like Byron, the more I see of men the better I like dogs." One hundred dogs and innumerable cats were at the feast, and the food cost \$200.